

Message

From: Matsumoto, Kimi [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=38D95BE36605427B8C0CC1A79B24209F-MATSUMO, KIMI]
Sent: 10/24/2017 7:22:14 PM
To: Shea, Valois [Shea.Valois@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: section from CEA with species of state and tribal interest

Thank you, Valois!

From: Shea, Valois
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 11:25 AM
To: Matsumoto, Kimi <Matsumoto.Kimi@epa.gov>
Subject: section from CEA with species of state and tribal interest

14.2 Species of State and Tribal Interest: The Short-Horned Lizard

During EPA's tribal consultation process, a tribal member mentioned sighting a short-horned lizard while visiting the Dewey-Burdock Project Site. The short-horned lizard, genus *Phrynosoma*, which means "toad body," is also called "horny toad" because of the wide flat body.

The short-horned lizard is listed as rare in South Dakota and, as such, is protected from collection, capture, and disturbance. Population numbers are monitored and habitats protected through the South Dakota Natural Heritage Program. Threats to the short-horned lizard include the loss of habitat to development and agriculture, the loss of prey species from agricultural practices, and human exploitation.

The short-horned lizard *Phrynosoma hernandesi* is listed under Rare Animals Tracked by the South Dakota Natural Heritage Program at <http://gfp.sd.gov/wildlife/threatened-endangered/rare-animal.aspx>. The short-horned lizard is found in the western South Dakota in Butte, Fall River, Harding, Meade, Perkins, and Shannon Counties.

The report entitled *Short-Horned Lizard (Phrynosoma hernandesi) Survey in South Dakota* documents a study by the Department of Biology at Black Hills State University. The report states that the short-horned lizard is considered secure range-wide, but imperiled within South Dakota due to its rarity. The report states that the major concern regarding threats to this species in South Dakota is the conversion of native prairie into cropland or densely-planted pasture. Other conservation concerns include widespread insecticide use killing lizard food sources, heavy use of sand or dirt roads through short-horned lizard habitat, and the potential for commercial collection. The lizards are thought to range broadly in Fall River County across much of the remaining natural prairie within and south of the Cheyenne River basin. The lizards like sand or dirt roads and are found dead on these roads. There is a concern that increased vehicle traffic is detrimental to short-horned lizard populations.

The short-horned lizard is important in some tribal cultures. Known as *Che* or the grandfather to some cultures, the horned lizard represents permanence, good health, and strength. Named "Ptehe Agleska" in Lakota, the horny toad represents secrecy, mystery and the keeper of valuable secrets. The short-horned lizard is often depicted in Native American artwork.

The area that will be impacted by ISR operations within the Dewey-Burdock Project Area is shown in Figure 22. As discussed in Section 6.0 of this document, this land is used as rangeland for cattle grazing and agricultural cropland, so is no longer native prairie. Because the habitat of the short-horned lizard is native prairie, the EPA does not expect the short-horned lizard or its habitat will be impacted by ISR activities. Once construction activities begin at the site, the EPA expects that the any short-horned lizards that were in the area will seek less disturbed locations.

Valois

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